

VON MÜLLER: Description of
the new species of
the genus *Scaphiocratus* from
the island of Java, 1851.

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DESCRIPTION OF A NEW PAPUAN VACCINIACEOUS PLANT;

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Agapetes Moorhousiana.

(*Dimorphantha Moorhousiana.*)

Branchlets beset with dark short spreading hairs; leaves on short stalks, ovate-lanceolar, entire, acuminate, flat, glabrous except at the base, paler beneath, two of the longitudinal nerves on each side of the midrib more prominent beneath, main-areoles of veins large; pedicels about as long as the flowers, thinly filiform, glabrous, bearing two minute bracteoles above the base; calyx small, its tube hemispheric, not angular; limb entire, expanding; corolla red, rather membranous, almost bell-shaped, outside slightly downy; lobes nearly deltoid, much shorter than the tube; stamens about three times shorter than the corolla, five larger, alternating with as many smaller, all in one row; filaments closely approximated, but disconnected, flat, pubescent; anthers hardly longer than the filaments, the larger bifid to the middle and two-celled, the smaller undivided and one-celled, the cells turgid, acute at the base and summit, each opening at its upper part anteriorly by a large pore; style glabrous, about as long as the corolla; stigma truncated; epigenous disk annular, velvety; ovary five-celled, with very numerous ovules in each cell.

South-eastern New Guinea; Rev. James Chalmers.

Probably an epiphyte. Leaves (two only seen) about 3 inches long and nearly one inch broad, of chartaceous consistence when dry, the longitudinal nerves starting from the lower portion of the midrib. Flowers probably in fascicles, unless solitary. Stalklets of flowers about one inch long, jointed with the calyx. Bracteoles ovate-lanceolar. Flowering calyx not fully $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide. Corolla about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long, glabrous inside. Filaments of the larger stamens considerably broader than the other. Anthers towards their base dorsifixed, yellowish, hardly $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long, the larger almost obcordate-sagittate; the connective not

extending beyond the sinus; the cells of all nearly four times longer than broad, without any appendages; the single cells of the smaller anthers interjacent to those of the larger on each side, the whole closely fitting (while the stamens are in bud) into one continuous mass, the pores of the larger anthers mutually contiguous, and the single pore of the small anther also in immediate approach beneath. Style very slender, sometimes twisted at the base. Placentas and ovules normal. Ripe fruit unknown.

Biformous anthers are not on record among *Vaccinieæ*, except in *Agapetes amblyornidis* and *A. meliphagidum*, concerning which Dr. Beccari noted (Malesia I, 208 and 209) similarly dimorphous stamens, attributing however two contiguous cells to the smaller anthers of those plants. I have therefore left this new species though reluctantly in the genus *Agapetes*, as the fruit also remains unknown. Nevertheless it would be best, to separate these three Papuan plants under the generic appellation *Dimorphanthera*. The five shorter one-celled anthers of our plant resemble much those of the Andine genus *Macleania*, which likewise has the calyx-limb undivided. From *D. amblyornidis* our plant differs specifically in much shorter petioles, smaller leaves and flowers, and further in the calyces not being distinctly denticulated, probably also in the fruit. From *D. meliphagidum* ours is more distinct, thus it has neither the prolongation of the connective of the anthers. Dr. Beccari mentions that these kinds of plants are much frequented by honey-sucking birds.

At the verge of the departure of the Right Reverend Dr. Moorhouse,—who during the last ten years has been the highly esteemed Lord Bishop of Melbourne,—for the See of Manchester, the lovely plant, just recorded, is offered as a phytologic souvenir to this distinguished prelate, and named in grateful appreciation of much generous sentiment extended also to the writer.



